

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION

CENTRAL ILLINOIS LIGHT COMPANY	)	
d/b/a AmerenCILCO	)	
	)	
CENTRAL ILLINOIS PUBLIC SERVICE	)	
COMPANY	)	07-0539
d/b/a AmerenCIPS	)	
	)	
ILLINOIS POWER COMPANY	)	
d/b/a AmerenIP	)	
	)	
Approval of the Energy Efficiency and	)	
Demand-Response Plan.	)	

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TESTIMONY OF CHRISTOPHER C. THOMAS  
ON BEHALF OF THE CITIZENS UTILITY BOARD

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CUB Exhibit 1.0

December 14, 2007

OFFICIAL FILE

I.C.C. DOCKET NO. 07-0539

Cub Exhibit No. 1.0-1.01-1.05

Witness \_\_\_\_\_

Date 11/14/08 Reporter \_\_\_\_\_

**ICC DOCKET NO. 07-0539**

**DIRECT TESTIMONY OF CHRISTOPHER C. THOMAS**

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**Exhibits**

- 1.01 Docket Summary for Christopher C. Thomas
- 1.02 Good Sense Presentation
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- 1.04 Ameren's Response to CUB Discovery Request 2.06
- 1.05 Ameren's Response to CUB Discover Request 2.08

1    **I.       STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS**

2    **Q.       PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS ADDRESS.**

3    A.       My name is Christopher C. Thomas. My business address is 208 S. LaSalle Street, Suite  
4            1760, Chicago, IL 60604-1003.

5

6    **Q.       WHAT IS YOUR PRESENT OCCUPATION?**

7    A.       I am employed by the Citizens Utility Board ("CUB") as the Director of Policy. My  
8            duties include development of CUB's policy positions, filing expert testimony before the  
9            Illinois Commerce Commission ("ICC" or "Commission") on CUB's behalf, and  
10           management of the Policy Department. My responsibilities also include serving as  
11           CUB's voting representative to the PJM member committee and working to develop  
12           consumer sector positions within the MISO Advisory Committee.

13

14   **Q.       PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE.**

15   A.       My professional career includes eight years as a utility regulatory economist. I started my  
16            career as a regulatory economist in the Telecommunications Department of the Missouri  
17            Public Service Commission ("MoPSC"). While with the MoPSC, I filed testimony or  
18            affidavits in 11 different dockets. I became a CUB employee in September 2004, and have  
19            filed testimony before the ICC in numerous dockets. CUB Exhibit 1.01, attached to this  
20            testimony, is a list of the dockets in which I have filed testimony and a brief description of  
21            the nature of each docket.

22 **Q. PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND.**

23 A. I have a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration with a concentration in Finance  
24 and a minor in Economics from Truman State University, and a Master's degree in  
25 Economics and Finance from Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville.

26  
27 **II. PURPOSE OF TESTIMONY**

28 **Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY?**

29 A. The purpose of my testimony is to address Ameren's proposed Residential Direct Load  
30 Control program, which the company has proposed to meet the demand response  
31 standards of Section 12-103(c) of the Act. This section requires electric utilities to  
32 implement "cost-effective demand response measures to reduce peak demand by 0.1%  
33 over the prior year for eligible retail customers." 220 ILCS 5/12-103(c). There are two  
34 general problems with the Company's proposal:

- 35 1) Ameren's cost estimates are only assumptions, which are not based on the  
36 Company's own experience.  
37 2) Ameren must maximize the value of the direct load control program and  
38 return any financial benefits to customers by modifying Rider EDR.

39  
40 **Q. WHAT IS AMEREN'S PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DIRECT LOAD CONTROL**  
41 **PROGRAM?**

42  
43 A. Ameren proposes to implement an air conditioner cycling program for residential  
44 customers with central air conditioning units. This program is very similar to ComEd's

45 Nature First program, which has operated for a number of years in northern Illinois.  
46 Essentially, Ameren will install a switch on the compressor of each participant's central  
47 air conditioner. This switch allows Ameren to turn the compressor on and off for short  
48 periods of time on peak summer days (commonly referred to as cycling). In return,  
49 customers receive bill credits for participating in the program, depending on their level of  
50 participation. Cycling air conditioners reduces load during peak times and acts as a relief  
51 valve against stress on the distribution system. Using an air conditioner cycling program  
52 to reduce demand during peak times also reduces electricity prices.

53  
54 **Q. ARE YOU CONCERNED ABOUT THE IMPACT THAT DIRECT LOAD**  
55 **CONTROL WILL HAVE ON CUSTOMER COMFORT?**

56  
57 A. Of course. Customer comfort is one of CUB's foremost concerns. However, studies  
58 have found that direct load control can achieve significant peak load reductions without  
59 moving outside of the comfort zones established by the American Society of Heating,  
60 Refrigerating, and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) basic comfort guidelines. See  
61 CUB Exhibit 1.02 (Good Sense presentation, Slide 6); CUB Exhibit 1.03 (Jason Black  
62 Paper, Figure 5). These studies show that a cycling program may impact temperature  
63 levels within a structure by 1 to 3 degrees, well within the ASHRE guidelines. *Id.*

68 **III. AMEREN'S PROPOSED COST ESTIMATES**

69  
70 **Q. WHAT PROBLEMS HAVE YOU IDENTIFIED WITH AMEREN'S PROPOSED**  
71 **COST ESTIMATES?**

72  
73 A. Because Ameren has not done an air conditioner cycling program in the past, Ameren  
74 does not have experience with such a programs costs. Thus, Ameren's cost estimates are  
75 only assumptions. Additionally, as I will explain, there is an inconsistency between these  
76 assumptions and the company's proposed budget. Therefore, the Commission must  
77 ensure that the costs recovered through the Company's proposed Rider EDR are  
78 appropriate.

79  
80 **Q. HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT AMEREN'S PROPOSED COSTS FOR THE**  
81 **DIRECT LOAD CONTROL PROGRAM ARE ASSUMED?**

82  
83 A. In Ameren's Response to CUB Discovery Request 2.06 (CUB Ex. 1.04) the company  
84 stated:

85 The incentive of \$170 represents the assumed cost of \$145 for the control switch  
86 and an assumed customer payment of \$25. The \$145 and \$25 values were  
87 selected to be generally consistent with assumptions used for the ComEd Nature  
88 First Program. Ameren Response to CUB 2.06.

89  
90 In Ameren's Response to CUB Discover Request 2.08 (CUB Ex. 1.05) the company  
91 stated:

92 The budget is the sum of incentive and non-incentive program costs. Incentive  
93 program costs are equal to the \$170 assumed per measure incentive and the  
94 estimated number of participants. Non-incentive program costs were set at 25%  
95 of incentive costs, essentially as a placeholder to test cost effectiveness. Ameren  
96 Response to CUB 2.08.  
97

Ameren should explain its assumptions, and why they should apply to Ameren, more thoroughly.

**Q. WHAT, SPECIFICALLY, IS INCONSISTENT WITH AMEREN'S BUDGET?**

A. In response to CUB 2.08, shown above, Ameren states that it bases its budget on a \$170 per customer incentive cost and a placeholder of 25% non-incentive costs. However, this methodology is not consistent with the budget contained on page 103 of Ameren Ex. 1.0. Table 1 below demonstrates the discrepancies:

**TABLE 1: INCONSISTENCIES IN AMEREN'S BUDGET**

	2008	2009	2010
New Switches (from Ameren Ex. 1.0, Pg. 103)	3,090	3,104	3,215
Total Switches	3,090	6,194	9,409
Switch Cost (from CUB DR 2.06)	\$145	\$145	\$145
Participant Incentive (from CUB DR 2.06)	\$25	\$25	\$25
Total Incentive Cost	\$525,300	\$604,930	\$701,400
25% Non-Incentive Cost	\$141,225	\$154,857	\$178,725
Total Incentive and Non-Incentive Cost	\$666,525	\$759,787	\$880,125
Ameren Budget (from Ameren Ex. 1.0, Pg. 103)	\$637,326	\$851,820	\$1,087,386
Inconsistency (Ameren Budget less Total Costs)	(\$19,299)	\$95,658	\$210,636

As Table 1 demonstrates, using the methodology Ameren identified in response to CUB 2.08, Ameren has under-budgeted costs in 2008 and over-budgeted in 2009 and 2010.

The Company should explain the discrepancy between the methodology provided in response to CUB 2.08 and the budget shown on page 103 of Ameren Ex. 1.0.

**Q. HOW SHOULD THE COMMISSION DETERMINE IF THE COSTS PROPOSED BY AMEREN ARE APPROPRIATE?**

A. The Company states that it will file monthly informational filings and submit informational annual audits in an annual report to the Commission. Because these filings are only informational in nature, the Commission should make it clear that the costs included in Ameren's proposed Rider EDR should include only Ameren's actual costs, exclusive of inflation or other projected asymmetrical costs. The Commission should ensure that any projected costs recovered through Rider EDR are offset by cost savings.

**Q. WHY IS IT INAPPROPRIATE TO INCLUDE INFLATION IN THESE COST ESTIMATES?**

A. All companies experience inflation through the rising cost of labor, healthcare, and materials and supplies. Companies also experience increased productivity that offsets the effects of inflation. Unfortunately, utilities often seek to include the effects of inflation in projected costs without incorporating productivity growth as well. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics most recent release of "Productivity and Cost By Industry: Selected Service-Providing and Mining Industries, 2005," unit labor costs for power generation and supply utilities (NAICS number 2211 - which I understand to include electric power generation, transmission and distribution functions) actually fell by 3.7%



134 between 2004 and 2005. The Commission cannot include cost increases in a rider  
135 without the offsetting symmetric cost savings that occur through productivity gains. The  
136 Commission should make it clear in its Order, that Ameren is not entitled to include  
137 inflation in any costs to be charged to customers, and that costs included in Rider EDR  
138 should be symmetric. That is, Rider EDR costs should include both projected cost  
139 increases and cost savings.

140  
141 **IV. THE COMMISSION MUST DIRECT THE COMPANY TO MAXIMIZE THE**  
142 **DIRECT LOAD CONTROL PROGRAM'S VALUE AND RETURN ANY**  
143 **FINANCIAL BENEFITS TO CUSTOMERS**

144  
145 **Q. HOW CAN AMEREN MAXIMIZE THE VALUE OF THE DIRECT LOAD**  
146 **CONTROL PROGRAM?**

147  
148 A. Direct load control programs such as the one Ameren has proposed in this docket  
149 displace the need to purchase additional energy, capacity, and potentially even ancillary  
150 services, to serve customers. In many RTO administered markets, participants can  
151 receive payments for the demand response achieved through their direct load control  
152 programs.

153  
154 **Q. ARE SUCH PAYMENTS AVAILABLE TO AMEREN'S DIRECT LOAD**  
155 **CONTROL PROGRAM?**

156  
157 A. Potentially. The Midwest ISO ("MISO") runs an ancillary service market that includes  
158 provisions for demand response to participate, although it is not clear exactly how that  
159 participation would occur. In addition, if MISO follows the trends established by more

160 mature ISOs, such as PJM Interconnection, LLC, there will be energy and capacity  
161 revenues available for this program in the future.

162  
163 **Q. HOW CAN WE TELL THAT AMEREN DOES NOT INTEND TO RETURN ANY**  
164 **REVENUES GENERATED BY THE DIRECT LOAD CONTROL PROGRAM TO**  
165 **CUSTOMERS?**

166  
167 A. Ameren's proposed Rider EDR (Ameren Ex. 5.1) does not include any mechanism to  
168 flow revenues received from these programs back to customers. As I will discuss below,  
169 Ameren may be able to produce revenue by selling the energy, and capacity generated by  
170 these programs into future markets. These revenues must flow through to consumers.  
171 Thus, the Commission must add a factor to Ameren's proposed EDR Charge ("EDRC")  
172 that adds revenues received from programs into the calculation of the charge. ComEd  
173 included such a factor in its Rider EDA (Docket 07-0540, ComEd Ex. 1.0, Appendix F),  
174 and the following modified version of that language is appropriate for Ameren to include  
175 in its tariff:

176 Factor RIC – Reimbursement of Incremental Costs, in \$, that are  
177 equal to funds from any source other than the application of EDRC  
178 that the Company expects to receive that are associated with the  
179 applicable twelve (12) month period of an ICC approved energy  
180 efficiency and demand response plan, if any, directly related to the  
181 implementation of programs and not otherwise credited.

182  
183 Inclusion of this factor would change the calculation of Ameren's EDRC  
184 as follows:

185  
186  
187 
$$\text{EDRC} = [(\text{PC} + \text{RIC} + \text{ARA} + \text{ORA}) / \text{PE}] \times \text{UF} \times [100/1]$$

189 **Q. WHAT IF AMEREN CANNOT GENERATE ADDITIONAL REVENUE WITH**  
190 **RIDER EDR?**

191  
192 A. Until it is clear how demand response can participate in MISO's ancillary services  
193 market, the RIC factor that I have proposed to include in Ameren's Rider EDR may be  
194 zero. However, it is necessary to include this factor to account for revenues that may  
195 arise in the future. My understanding is that MISO's Demand Response Working Group  
196 is working to incorporate demand response resources into MISO's markets. The  
197 Commission should direct the utility to capture all available energy and capacity revenues  
198 from MISO administered markets, and from the yet to be formed Illinois Power Agency  
199 ("IPA") when, appropriate processes to purchase the capacity and energy value of  
200 demand response are instituted.

201  
202 **V. CONCLUSION**

203 **Q. PLEASE SUMMARIZE YOUR TESTIMONY.**

204 A. Ameren's cost estimates are only assumptions, which are not based on the Company's  
205 own experience. Ameren should explain its assumptions more thoroughly. In addition,  
206 the Commission should make it clear in its Order that Ameren is not entitled to include  
207 inflation in any costs to be charged to customers, and that costs included in Rider EDR  
208 should be symmetric. That is, Rider EDR costs should include both projected cost  
209 increases and cost savings. The Company should explain the discrepancy between the  
210 methodology provided in response to CUB 2.08 and the budget shown on page 103 of

211 Ameren Ex. 1.0, and Ameren must maximize the value of the direct load control program  
212 and return any financial benefits to customers by modifying Rider EDR.

213 **Q. DOES THAT CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?**

214 **A. Yes.**

## **Docket Summary for Christopher C. Thomas**

### **Illinois Commerce Commission Docket No.07-528**

Commonwealth Edison Company, Petition for Approval of Initial Procurement Plan

**On Behalf of:** The Citizens Utility Board

### **Illinois Commerce Commission Docket No.07-527**

Central Illinois Light Company, d/b/a Ameren CILCO; Central Illinois Public Service Company, d/b/a Illinois Public Service Company, d/b/a Ameren CIPS; and Illinois Power Company, d/b/a AmerenIP, Petition for Approval of Initial Procurement Plan

**On Behalf of:** The Citizens Utility Board

### **Illinois Commerce Commission Docket No.07-0242 (cons.)**

North Shore Gas Company and Peoples Gas Light and Coke Company Proposed general increase in natural gas rates

**On Behalf of:** The Citizens Utility Board and the City of Chicago

### **Illinois Commerce Commission Docket No.07-0166**

Commonwealth Edison Company Investigation pursuant to Section 9-250 of the Public Utilities Act of Rate Design

**On Behalf of:** The Citizens Utility Board

### **Illinois Commerce Commission Docket No.07-0165**

Central Illinois Light Company, d/b/a Ameren CILCO; Central Illinois Public Service Company, d/b/a Illinois Public Service Company, d/b/a Ameren CIPS; and Illinois Power Company, d/b/a AmerenIP Investigation pursuant to Section 9-250 of the Public Utilities Act of Electric Rate Design

**On Behalf of:** The Citizens Utility Board

### **Illinois Commerce Commission Docket No.06-0800**

Investigation of Rider CPP of Commonwealth Edison Company, and Rider MV of Central Illinois Light Company d/b/a AmerenCILCO, of Central Illinois Public Service Company d/b/a AmerenCIPS, and of Illinois Power Company d/b/a AmerenIP, pursuant to Commission Orders regarding the Illinois Auction

**On Behalf of:** The Citizens Utility Board

### **Illinois Commerce Commission Docket No. 06-0691 (cons.)**

Central Illinois Light Company d/b/a AmerenCILCO, Central Illinois Public Service Company, d/b/a Ameren CIPS, Illinois Power Company d/b/a AmerenIP, Proposal to establish a new rider entitled Rider PRP – Price Response Program, (tariffs filed September 29, 2006)

**On Behalf of:** The Citizens Utility Board

## **Docket Summary for Christopher C. Thomas**

### **Illinois Commerce Commission Docket No. 06-0617**

Commonwealth Edison Company Proposed Revisions to Rate BES-H Basic Electric Service Hourly Energy Pricing

**On Behalf of:** The Citizens Utility Board and The City of Chicago

### **Illinois Commerce Commission Docket No. 06-0379**

Citizen's Utility Board And the People of the State of Illinois Petition To Initiate Rulemaking With Notice and Comment for Approval of Certain Amendments to Illinois Administrative Code Part 280.

**On Behalf of:** The Citizens Utility Board

### **Illinois Commerce Commission Docket No. 06-0270**

COMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANY Petition of Commonwealth Edison Company For Approval Pursuant to Section 7-102 of the Public Utilities Act of the Entry into Certain Contracts Relating to Wind Generation and Approval Under Section 9-201 of a Tariff Concerning the Governor's Sustainable Energy Plan and the Illinois Commerce Commission's Resolution in Docket No. 05-0437.

**On Behalf of:** The Citizens Utility Board

### **Illinois Commerce Commission Docket No. 06-0070 (cons.)**

CENTRAL ILLINOIS LIGHT COMPANY, d/b/a Ameren CILCO, CENTRAL ILLINOIS PUBLIC SERVICES COMPANY, d/b/a AmerenCIPS, and ILLINOIS POWER COMPANY, d/b/a AmerenIP Proposed General Increase For Delivery Services

**On Behalf of:** The Citizens Utility Board

### **Illinois Commerce Commission Docket No. 06-0027**

Illinois Commerce Commission Vs. Illinois Bell Telephone Company - Investigation of specified tariffs declaring certain services to be competitive Telecommunications services.

**On Behalf of:** The Citizens Utility Board

### **Illinois Commerce Commission Docket No. 05-0597**

Commonwealth Edison Company Proposed general increase in electric rates, general restructuring of rates, price unbundling of bundled service rates, and revision of other terms and conditions of service.

**Testimony On Behalf of:** The Citizens Utility Board and The City of Chicago

### **Illinois Commerce Commission Docket No. 04-0779**

Nicor Inc. Proposed General Increase in Rates

**Testimony On Behalf of:** The Citizens Utility Board and the Cook County States Attorney

## **Docket Summary for Christopher C. Thomas**

### **Illinois Commerce Commission Docket No. 04-0476**

Illinois Power Company and Ameren Corp Proposed General Increase in Gas Rates

**On Behalf of:** The Citizens Utility Board

### **Missouri Public Service Commission Docket No. TR-2002-251**

In the Matter of the Tariffs Filed by Sprint Missouri, Inc., d/b/a Sprint, to Reduce the Basic Rates by the Change in the CPI-TS as Required by Section 392.245(4), Updating Its Maximum Allowable Prices for Non-basic Services and Adjusting Certain Rates as Allowed by Section 392.245(11), and Reducing Certain Switched Access Rates and Rebalancing to Local Rates, as Allowed by Section 392.245(9) (Affidavit)

**On Behalf of:** Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission

### **Missouri Public Service Commission Docket No. TO-2004-0207**

In the Matter of a Commission Inquiry into the Possibility of Impairment without Unbundled Local Circuit Switching When Serving the Mass Market

**On Behalf of:** Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission

### **Missouri Public Service Commission Docket No. IT-2004-0015**

In the Matter of Southwestern Bell Telephone Company, d/b/a SBC Missouri's Proposed Revised Tariff Sheet Intended to Increase by Eight Percent the Rates for Line Status Verification and Busy Line Interrupt as Authorized by Section 392.245, RSMo, the Price Cap Statute

**On Behalf of:** Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission

### **Missouri Public Service Commission Docket No. TT-2002-472/473**

In the Matter of Southwestern Bell Telephone Company's Tariff Filing to Initiate Residential Customer Winback Promotion / In the Matter of Southwestern Bell Telephone Company's Tariff Filing to Extend Business Customer Winback Promotions

**On Behalf of:** Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission

### **Missouri Public Service Commission Docket No. TO-2002-222**

In the Matter of the Petition of MCImetro Access Transmission Services LLC, Brooks Fiber Communications of Missouri, Inc., and MCI WorldCom Communications, Inc., for Arbitration of an Interconnection Agreement With Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Under the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

**On Behalf of:** Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission

## **Docket Summary for Christopher C. Thomas**

### **Missouri Public Service Commission Docket No. TA-2001-475/TA-99-47**

In the Matter of the Application of Southwestern Bell Communications Services, Inc., d/b/a SBC Long Distance, for a Certificate of Service Authority to Provide Interexchange Telecommunications Services within the State of Missouri / In the Matter of the Application of Southwestern Bell Communications Services, Inc., d/b/a Southwestern Bell Long-distance, for a Certificate of Service Authority to Provide Interexchange Telecommunications Services within the State of Missouri.

**On Behalf of:** Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission

### **Missouri Public Service Commission Docket No. TO-2001-455**

In the Matter of the Application of AT&T Communications of the Southwest, Inc., TCG St. Louis, Inc., and TCG Kansas City, Inc., for Compulsory Arbitration of Unresolved Issues With Southwestern Bell Telephone Company pursuant to Section 252(b) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996

**On Behalf of:** Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission

### **Missouri Public Service Commission Docket No. TO-2001-439**

In the Matter of the Determining of Prices, Terms and Conditions of Conditioning for xDSL-capable Loops

**On Behalf of:** Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission

### **Missouri Public Service Commission Docket No. TT-2001-298**

In the Matter of Southwestern Bell Telephone Company's Proposed Tariff PSC Mo. No. 42 Local Access Service Tariff, Regarding Physical and Virtual Collocation

**On Behalf of:** Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission

### **Missouri Public Service Commission Docket No. TT-2000-527/513**

In the Matter of the Application of Allegiance Telecom of Missouri, Inc., CCMO, Inc. d/b/a Connect!, DSLnet Communications, LLC, KMC Telecom III, Inc. and New Edge Network, Inc. for an Order Requiring Southwestern Bell Telephone Company to File a Collocation Tariff / In the Matter of the Joint Petition of Birch Telecom of Missouri, Inc. for a Generic Proceeding to Establish a Southwestern Bell Telephone Company Collocation Tariff Before the Missouri Public Service Commission

**On Behalf of:** Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission

**Missouri Public Service Commission Docket No. TO-98-329** In the Matter of an Investigation into Various Issues Related to the Missouri Universal Service Fund

**On Behalf of:** Staff of the Missouri Public Service Commission





# **Demand Response Programs**

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New Considerations, Choices, & Opportunities



# An Illustrative GoodCents Direct Program Design

## A/C Cycling During Control Event

Expected Number of Control Hours 150  
Expected Number of Control Events 50

Cycling Option	Minutes Off	Minutes On	% of Time A/C Off	Change in Customer's Comfort Level	kW Demand Response	Annual Incentive Payment
1	6.00	24.00	20.00%	No Noticeable Change	0.40	\$6.00
2	7.50	22.50	25.00%	No Noticeable Change Likely	0.50	\$7.50
3	10.00	20.00	33.33%	1° Change in Temperature	0.80	\$12.00
4	15.00	15.00	50.00%	2° Change in Temperature	1.20	\$18.00
5	20.00	10.00	66.67%	3° Change in Temperature	1.60	\$24.00
6	22.50	7.50	75.00%	4° Change in Temperature	1.75	\$26.25
7	24.00	6.00	80.00%	5° Change in Temperature	1.90	\$28.50

## Example Control Periods

Winter: 5:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m.  
Summer: 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

8:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.  
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Control Event "Opt-Outs" per Year = 3



## **Demand Response as a Substitute for Electric Power System Infrastructure Investments**

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Massachusetts Institute of Technology

**Abstract** – This paper investigates the system-wide implications of regulatory policies to promote demand response as a substitute for investments in system capacity (generation, transmission, and distribution). Investments in demand response technologies, such as smart thermostats for thermal energy storage, have the potential to improve the efficiency of operations and investments in the electric power system. Reducing the magnitude of demand fluctuations will allow the utilization of the generation, transmission, and distribution systems to be increased and the levels of ancillary voltage and frequency support and reserves reduced. An analysis of the long term effects of demand response on electricity pricing and generation investment is modeled. This analysis enables a general comparison of the potential for avoided costs in generation, transmission, and distribution that could be expected from active regulatory support of demand response investments.

### *Introduction*

This paper investigates the potential for demand response to provide a substitute for capacity investments. Large scale implementation of demand response is modeled to determine the potential impact on capacity investments. The paper focuses on demand response at the residential level, which is typically discounted in terms of its potential size and perceived cost effectiveness. This paper attempts to present a case for the potential for residential demand response. Section 1 of the paper outlines the potential of demand response to reduce peak loads via thermal storage or load shifting. Section 2 contains an example illustrating the potential for thermal storage. Section 3 briefly explores the issues associated with implementing large scale demand response. Section 4 presents the results from simulations to determine the effects of large scale demand response on long term generation capacity. Section 5 illustrates the potential for demand response to substitute for investments in transmission capacity. Section 6 gives a brief overview of secondary benefits from demand response. Section 7 explores areas for future research.

### *I. Potential for Thermal Storage and Load Shifting*

Innovations in control and communications technologies enable the creation of relatively low cost demand response schemes. A significant portion of peak demand can be shifted using these technologies given the proper regulatory and market structures. Past studies of the potential for demand response typically involved studies of consumer reaction to real time or time of use pricing without including the technologies to facilitate demand response. Several utilities currently have successful demand response programs that demonstrate the potential for peak shaving. The majority of these programs focus on large consumers. There is significant potential for peak shaving amongst smaller, residential consumers, however, that could be realized with the proper incentive schemes.

Electricity demand is indirect demand. Consumers do not actually demand electricity itself, but the services provided by equipment that uses electricity. Electricity demand can be differentiated by demand for power and demand for energy. Demand for power is instantaneous, while demand for energy is not. Energy based demand can be utilized as a storage mechanism for electric power. In addition, the services provided by equipment which demands power rather than energy are not time dependent in many cases.

A sub category of power demand consists of deferrable load. Washers, dryers, dishwashers, and possibly electric ovens are examples of appliances that have deferrable load. Consumers often are not concerned with the exact times that such appliances run, as long as it is within a certain interval. This presents an opportunity for deferring the power consumption by these appliances from peak to off peak time periods – especially if programmable controls are available to automate the deferral. Although these appliances typically make up a small portion of the total residential load due to their intermittent usage, they do consume significant amounts of power while running and therefore offer the potential for significant peak shaving whenever they can be shifted to off peak consumption.

Energy Based load consists of air conditioners, refrigerators, water heaters, and electric space heaters. These provide service based on thermal transfer (heat or cooling). As such, consumers are indifferent to the actual time that this equipment runs, as long as the temperature remains within a certain range. By intelligently controlling consumption, the desired temperature range can be utilized as a thermal storage medium, and therefore as an indirect electricity storage method.

Energy based load accounts for nearly 50% of total household consumption. This represents a very large potential for load shifting in order to reduce peak demand by utilizing thermal storage. Air conditioning accounts for over 20% of household electricity usage in the United States. Air conditioning load is also highly peak coincident, since summer peaks are almost entirely caused by air conditioning load. "Residential and commercial air conditioning load represent at least 30% of the summer peak electricity loads". [2]

Refrigeration accounts for over 10% of household electricity usage [2]. The load pattern of a refrigerator involves cycling over short time periods, on the order of minutes, which is relatively smooth between hours. This load profile is a result of the thermal characteristics of refrigerators and the desire for minimizing temperature deviations.

The storage time for a refrigerator is therefore too short to adequately allow for inter-hour load shifting. It is possible, however, to utilize for short term load reductions such as frequency control or possibly for VAR compensation. Refrigerators may also be integrated into protections schemes – they could "trip" much like circuit breakers in response to voltage sags and prevent higher level outages.

Thermal storage programs typically involve the use of chillers to create ice during off-peak hours that is then melted during peak hours to offset air conditioning load. [8] Chillers are installed only at larger load sources due to costs and economies of scale. Although it is possible that this technology could be expanded to the mass consumer market, it would involve the installation of significant equipment at the household level. A simpler method of thermal storage that can be adopted at the household level utilizes the internal air temperature of the home to store energy. By intelligently cycling air conditioners, while maintaining temperatures within a comfort zone instead of at a single setting, significant load can be shifted from peak hours. Such a scheme can also be applied to electric water heaters and electric heat.

## II. Thermal Storage Example

The following example illustrates the potential for load shifting from thermal storage using air conditioning. The example utilizes a simple control scheme, based on the methodology outlined in the paper by Constantopoulos, Schweppe, and Larsen [1] and the optimization method developed by Daryanian [10]. Day ahead pricing data from the PJM system from July 8, 2003, along with Temperatures from Philadelphia, Pa are used as inputs to the model. The objective is to control the output of a residential air conditioning system for optimal cost savings. The result provides the potential economic savings from employing such a control scheme, as well as the resultant reductions in peak load power usage. Hourly pricing at the retail level is necessary for consumers to benefit from this thermal storage scheme.

The consumer's objective is to minimize the cost of air conditioning while maintaining the indoor air temperature within a certain range.

$$\text{Min}_e C_{ac} = \sum_i P_i * q_i \quad (1)$$

s.t.

$$0 \leq q_i \leq q^{\max}$$

$$T^{\min} \leq T_i \leq T^{\max}$$

where:

$$T^{\min} = T^{\text{ideal}} - d$$

$$T^{\max} = T^{\text{ideal}} + d$$

d = Acceptable temperature deviation

$q_i$  - energy (kWh) consumed for air conditioning in hour  $i$ .  
 $P_i$  - price of electricity (\$/kWh) in hour  $i$ .  
 $q^{\max}$  - Maximum power output of Air conditioner

The hourly household temperature,  $T$ , is determined by:

$$T_{i+1} = \epsilon T_i + (1 - \epsilon)(T^o - \eta * q_i / A) \quad (2)$$

TABLE 1. Parameters and Values of Residential AC Control Model

Variable	Value	Description
$T_0$	75	Initial temperature (°F)
$\eta$	2.5	Efficiency of AC (COP)
$q_i$		Power output of AC in hour $i$
$q_{\max}$	3.5	Maximum power output of AC (KW)
$E$	0.93	System inertia
$T^o$		Outside Temperature (°F)
$A$	0.14	Thermal Conductivity (KW/°F)
$T_d$	75°	Desired household Temp (°F)
$D$	2°	Maximum acceptable Temperature Deviation (°F)

\*Parameter values from [1 and 5]

The optimization assumes that temperature variations within  $\pm 2^\circ$  F of the thermostat set point do not result in loss of consumer utility – this deviation is well within the  $7^\circ$  F comfort zone established by the ASHRAE Handbook (See Figure below).

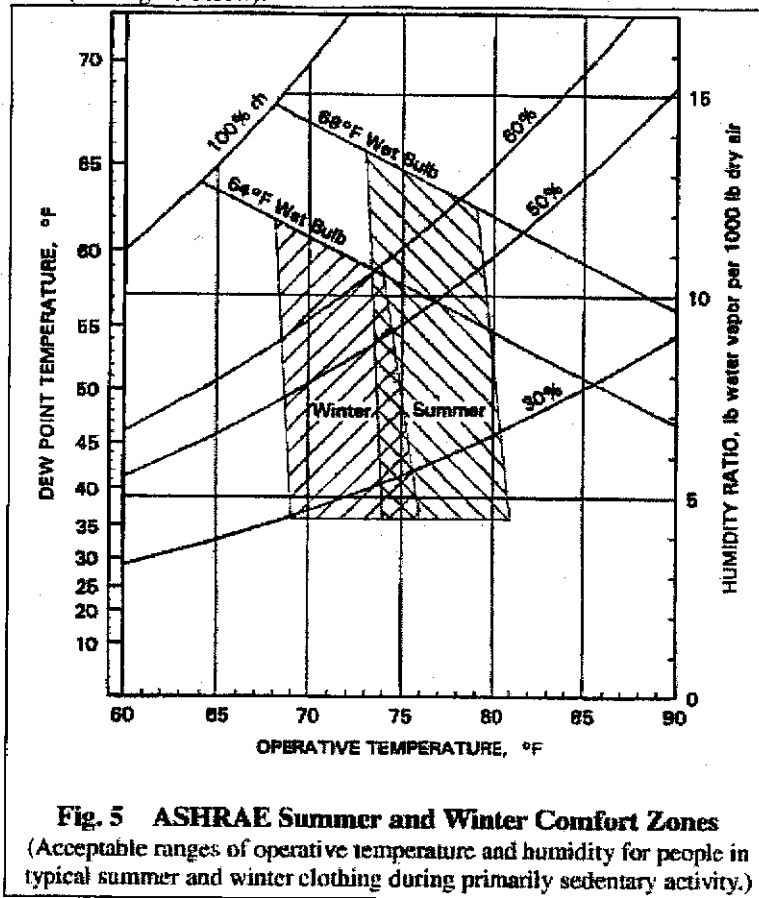


Table 2 compares the results of applying a load control scheme to the AC versus the base case of allowing the AC to run on a single thermostat setting. It is assumed that the consumer is indifferent to indoor temperature fluctuations between 73° and 77°F ( $T^{\text{ideal}} = 75^\circ$ ,  $d = 2^\circ$ )

Table 2. Normal vs. Controlled Air Conditioning Schemes

Date	8-Jul-03	Normal Cycling				Load Control		
Hr	Price (\$/MWh)	Temp (outside)	Temp (inside)	Output (KWh)	Cost (mils)	Temp (inside)	Output (KWh)	Cost (mils)
1	\$ 32.43	76	75.0	0.09	2.92	75.1	0.00	0.00
2	\$ 24.23	78	75.0	0.31	7.51	75.3	0.00	0.00
3	\$ 22.34	77	75.0	0.20	4.47	75.4	0.00	0.00
4	\$ 21.43	75	75.0	0.00	0.00	75.4	0.00	0.00
5	\$ 21.41	75	75.0	0.00	0.00	73.0	3.35	71.85
6	\$ 23.45	74	74.9	0.00	0.00	73.0	0.09	2.11
7	\$ 30.55	75	74.9	0.00	0.00	73.0	0.20	6.11
8	\$ 39.65	77	75.0	0.10	4.16	73.0	0.40	15.86
9	\$ 49.66	79	75.0	0.40	19.86	73.0	0.60	29.80
10	\$ 58.45	82	75.0	0.70	40.92	73.0	0.90	52.61
11	\$ 68.55	85	75.0	0.99	67.86	73.0	1.19	81.57
12	\$ 82.31	84	75.0	0.90	74.08	73.0	1.10	90.55
13	\$ 92.16	85	75.0	0.99	91.24	73.5	0.53	48.98
14	\$ 105.32	87	75.0	1.21	127.44	74.4	0.00	0.00
15	\$ 113.13	89	75.0	1.41	159.51	75.4	0.00	0.00
16	\$ 118.23	88	75.0	1.30	153.70	76.3	0.00	0.00
17	\$ 126.77	86	75.0	1.10	139.44	77.0	0.00	0.00
18	\$ 118.94	86	75.0	1.10	130.84	77.0	0.90	107.05
19	\$ 93.85	86	75.0	1.10	103.23	77.0	0.90	84.46
20	\$ 83.79	85	75.0	0.99	82.95	77.0	0.79	66.19
21	\$ 79.89	83	75.0	0.79	63.11	77.0	0.59	47.13
22	\$ 69.03	83	75.0	0.79	54.53	77.0	0.59	40.73
23	\$ 48.95	81	75.0	0.60	29.37	77.0	0.40	19.58
24	\$ 43.72	81	75.0	0.60	26.23	75.0	3.26	142.39
Totals -				15.67	1,383.38	15.79	906.77	

Figure 2 below compares the controlled versus uncontrolled air conditioning consumption. The peak reduction in consumption is clear from the graph. Figure 3 illustrates the effect of pre-cooling to enable the reduction in peak consumption. When using thermal storage, the air is cooled (energy is stored) to the minimum temperature just prior to off peak hours and then allowed to rise during the peak hours (storage is discharged).

Figure 2. Comparison of Controlled to Uncontrolled Consumption

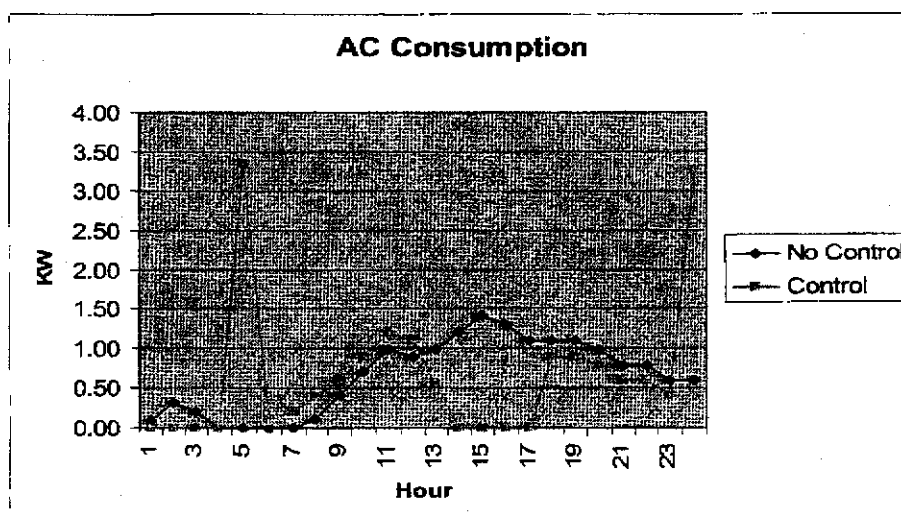
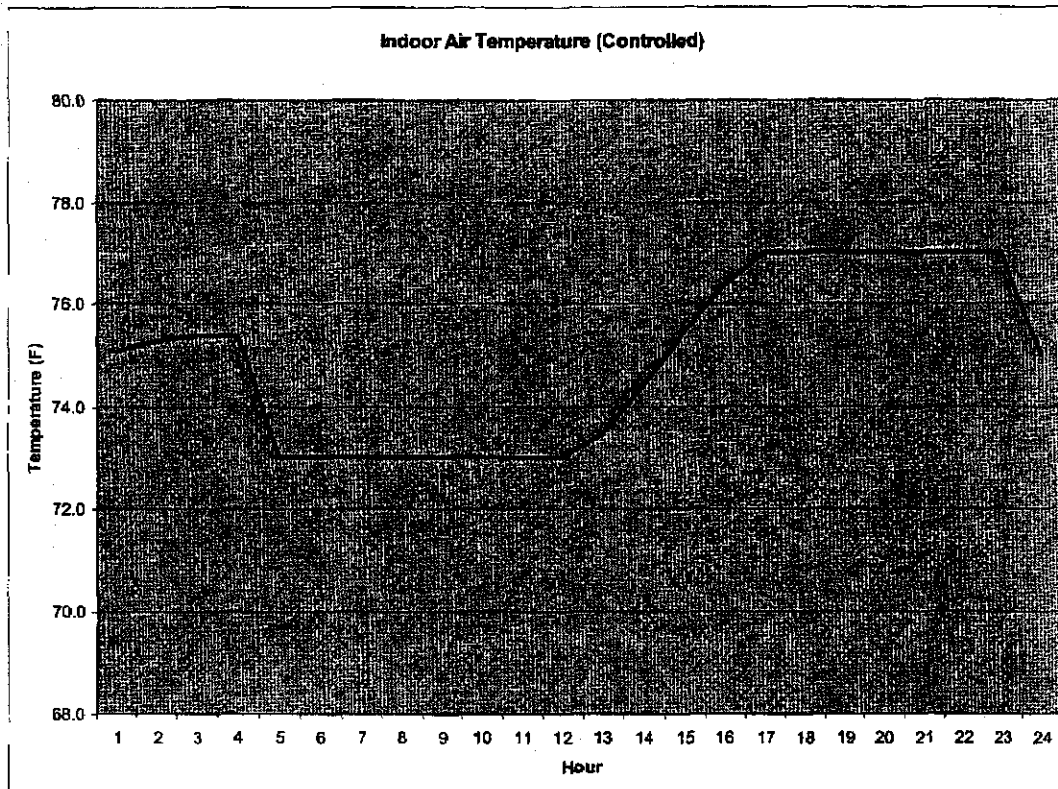


Figure 3. Indoor Air Temperature for Controlled Thermal Storage



As shown, during the five highest price hours of the day (hours 14-18), an 85% reduction in peak demand for air conditioning can be achieved by load shifting without moving outside the maximum temperature deviation. There is, however, a moderate increase in consumption in the hours before and immediately after the peak hours; with the highest consumption at beginning and end of the control period. The overall energy consumption increases very slightly, but the customer reduces their costs by over 33% for the day. The thermal storage control scheme enables significant savings and peak reductions while maintaining comfort. The system wide effects of large scale implementation of thermal storage are explored in subsequent sections.

### III. Implementation

Implementing demand response requires investments at both the system and the customer levels. At the system level, the communications, metering, and billing infrastructure is necessary to facilitate a demand response program. Several utilities have invested in this infrastructure with the costs being included in their rate bases. Incentives for utilities to make such investments are limited because of potential lost revenues from reduced demand as well as the potential for eventual competitive entry facilitated by automation of metering and billing functions.

Real time metering capability is necessary to allow for hourly monitoring and billing of power consumption. Without such capability, it is not possible to allocate the costs/benefits of demand response directly to consumers. Two-way communications systems for sending price or other control signals to consumers and receiving near real time load information to assess charges are necessary. The ubiquity of internet communications and the relatively small bandwidth required significantly reduce the costs of implementing such communications systems. Programs in Florida Power and Puget Energy that utilize real

time metering along with programmable thermostats currently charge less than \$5 per customer per month for participants in their demand response programs [4]. Economies of scope may allow such costs to be reduced significantly.

Utilities must significantly upgrade their billing systems to enable near real time charges and to manage the much larger degree of information flows. The information will also enable utilities to have a much greater knowledge of system conditions and should improve their ability to forecast load.

Information programs are necessary in order to educate consumers on the potential benefits and methodologies of demand response programs, including but not limited to – thermal storage, hourly pricing, metering and control equipment. Studies have shown that such programs can be effective at inducing consumers to change their consumption behavior even without price signals. [14,15,16,17,18]

Large scale demand response can be implemented with either distributed or a coordinated control. Distributed demand response allows consumers to make their own consumption/response decisions based on incentives provided by the utility/Load Serving Entity/system operator. These incentives can include pricing schemes such as real time pricing, time of use pricing, critical peak pricing, or demand bidding. Consumers receive a price signal and respond accordingly. Studies of pricing programs have found limited response (typically with elasticities on the order of  $-0.1$  [16]). The majority of these studies, however, did not provide enabling technologies to the customers. Programs that do provide enabling technologies have found significant potential, however most of these programs fall under the coordinated type of DR below. [4]

Utilities or system operators coordinate several current demand response programs. In these programs, customers agree to reduce load at the direction of the utility. The contract will often include a limit to the number of hours the utility may declare a demand reduction event, and allow the demand to ignore the event at the cost of paying a penalty. Such programs enable the utility to predict the demand response and to attempt to coordinate the DR with the system conditions. The limitations include a limited number of hours, the lack of incentives for DR in non-event hours, and the lack of investment in true peak shifting equipment since most participants simply shut down all or part of their load in response to an event.

#### *IV. System Wide Effects of Demand Response*

This section examines the effects of large scale implementation of the thermal storage scheme outlined above. The individual case assumes that prices are unchanged by the actions of a single household. This assumption will hold in general, but when a sufficient number of consumers are participating in thermal storage market prices will be affected. A non-linear dynamic simulation model was used to evaluate the long run effects on market prices, generation capacity, and consumer savings from widespread adoption of thermal storage technologies.

The model uses data from the PJM system for the year 2003. The average air conditioning consumption in PJM is 640 KWh/yr [2]. The model uses a simple generation investment heuristic based on segment revenues to determine the effects of large-scale implementation of demand response on generation capacity. Consumers adopt the thermal storage according to their potential savings and awareness of the technology (via word of mouth). In addition, the model includes long term demand elasticity to include the rebound effect in the analysis.

The model segments the electricity market into base-load (18% of hours), intermediate (68% of hours), peak (13% of hours), and critical peak segments (1% of hours). Results from the optimization model outlined above were used as inputs to determine the amount of load shifted by each consumer from peak and critical peak hours to intermediate hours. A piecewise linear supply curve (See Figure 4) is used to determine the market clearing price; each segment is represented by the supply function. This curve was derived from the aggregate load and price data from PJM.

Figure 4 also shows the long term effects on the aggregate supply curve of implementing large scale demand response. The supply curve becomes steeper as peak load generation capacity is reduced due to a



reduction in peak load. This mitigates the long term price savings seen by customers who do not participate (free riders) in demand response. On the other hand, the expected diminishing returns as more and more consumers participate, while still a factor, are also mitigated somewhat. It must be noted that even though the curve is steeper, the peak prices, on average, will be reduced significantly (nearly 25%) except for in the few critical peak hours when demand is highest.

Figure 4. Supply Curve with and without Load Shifting

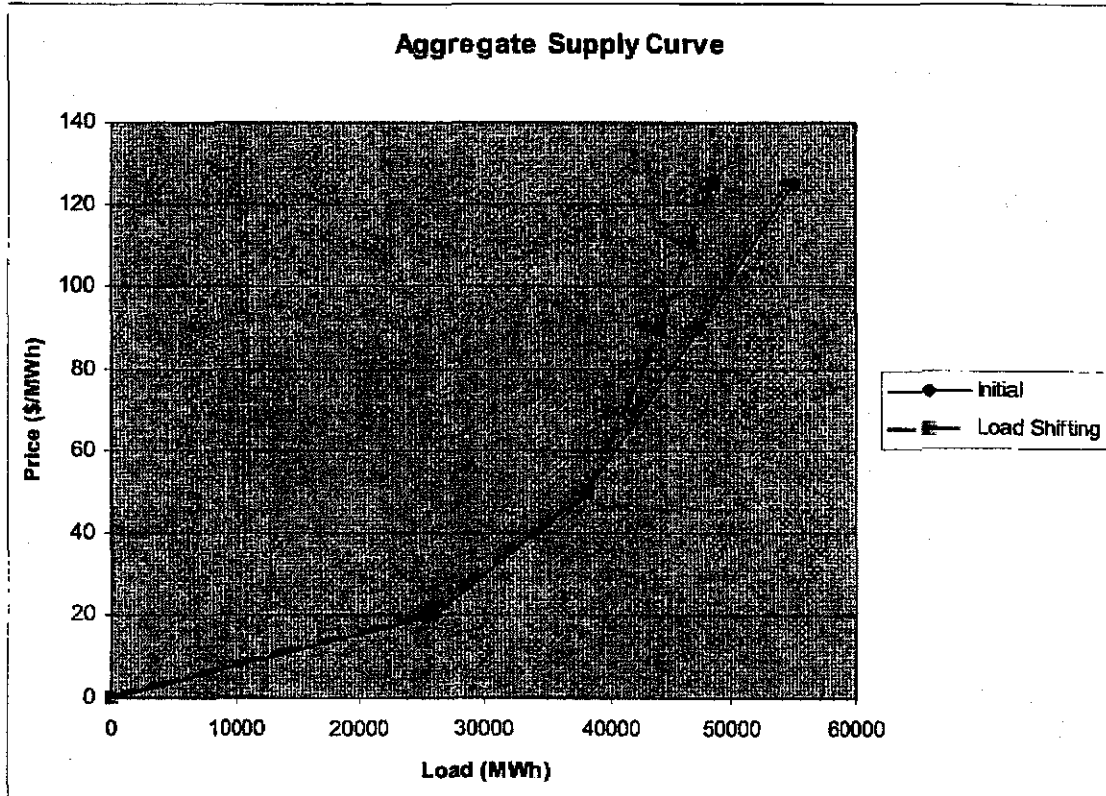


Figure 5. Generation Capacity by Sector

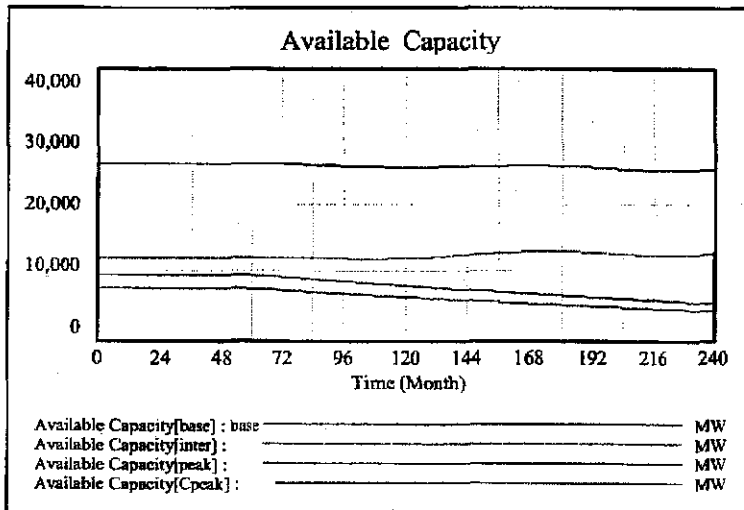
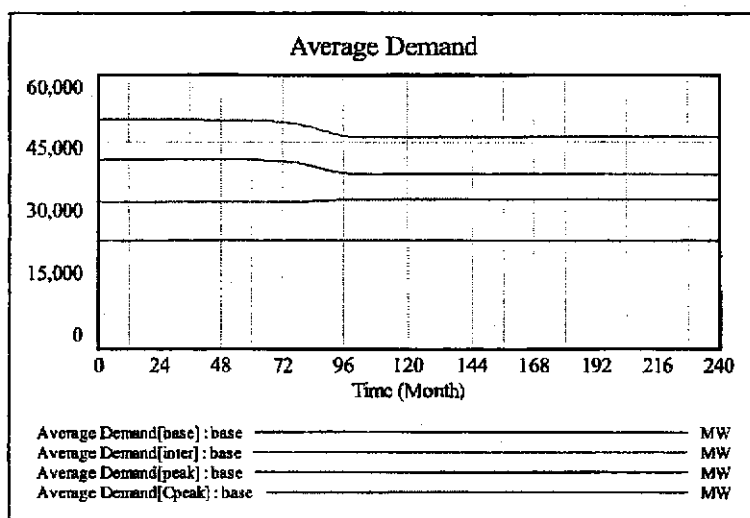


Figure 6. Average Hourly Demand by Segment



The results of the model indicate that demand in peak and critical peak hours is reduced by 8% (see Figure 6). System generation capacity is reduced by 12%. Base generation capacity decreases by 2%, intermediate capacity increases by 7% and peak capacity is reduced by 29%. Intermediate capacity increases due to a combination of higher utilization and increased prices in intermediate hours.

Because of diminishing returns, it is only cost effective for 25% of users to participate in load shifting. At this point, the costs of investing in the control equipment exceed the benefits of load shifting.

The model shows that the savings resulting from thermal storage are sufficient (in the PJM system) to cover the individual costs of installation, but not the system costs. Since all consumers benefit from the demand response program, it is not unreasonable to socialize the system costs. In addition, the externalities may prove large enough to justify some subsidization of the individual costs. Non-participants will receive the benefits of reduced costs and may otherwise free ride on the investments of participants.

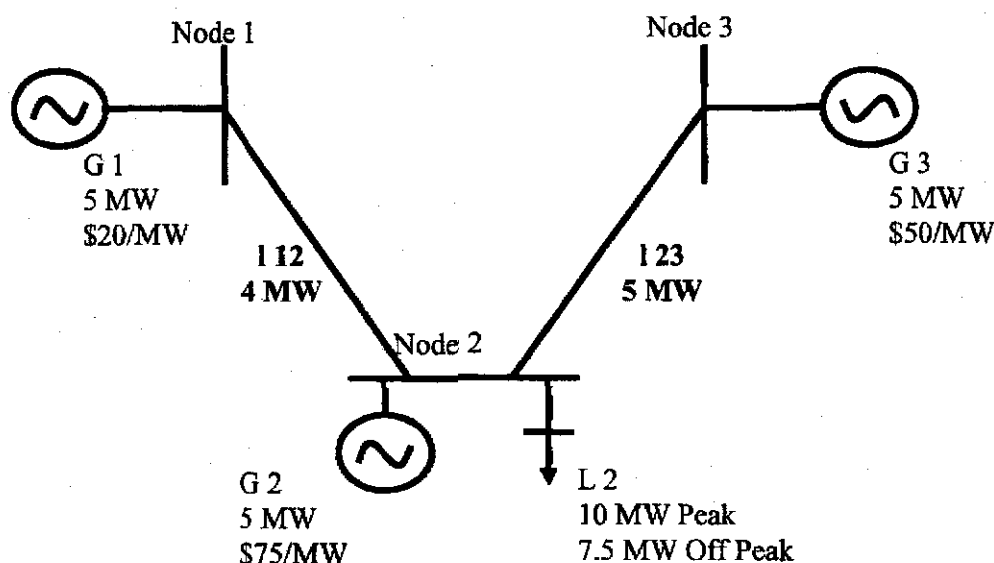
#### V. Investment Substitution with Demand Response

Reducing the peak load will directly impact the required transmission capacity since the system is built for the peak. The overall utilization of lines will also increase as the peak is reduced and the load smoothed. This will increase flow-based revenues for transmission companies, but will also reduce congestion charges.

Demand response also has significant potential to reduce the need for ancillary services. By smoothing the overall system load and shifting reactive power demand away from system peak loading, thermal storage will reduce the need for ancillary services such as VAR compensation, frequency control, and reserves. In addition to reducing the need for ancillary services from load shifting, demand resources can be utilized directly for VAR compensation, frequency control, and short term reserves.

As with traditional demand side management programs, investments in the infrastructure for demand response should include analysis of the avoided costs (least cost planning). The difference is that often investments in demand response infrastructure, such as real time metering, are an indirect method of reducing demand and therefore may be difficult to quantify. The infrastructure enables demand response and is a necessary but not sufficient component of demand response. The components of consideration should include reductions in spot prices (including LMP), the elimination of capacity expansion in generation, transmission, and distribution, and reductions in reserves and ancillary services. The value of demand response for increasing reliability is significant and should be included as well.

Figure 7. Example 3 node system



In the  
follow

ing example, the simple three-node system above is used to illustrate the potential avoided costs of transmission or generation expansion from DR.

In this system, the peak price will be \$75/MW with 4MW from G1, 5 MW from G3, and 1 MW from G2. The off peak price will be \$50/MW with 4MW from G1 and 3.5 MW from G3.

With 10% DR (assuming .5MW shifted before and .5 MW shifted after the peak time period) the load will be 9 MW peak and 8 MW off peak. Under these conditions, the price will be \$50/MW in both peak and off peak hours.

For N-1 security criteria to be satisfied, the system would have to add 1 MW of capacity either to line 1-2 or to generator 2 without demand response. Demand response allows the N-1 criteria to be satisfied with no additional investments. This illustrates the value of demand response for improving system reliability. Demand response can also be used in contingency/emergency situations to shed load without major service disruptions, which would be a significant improvement over rolling blackouts.

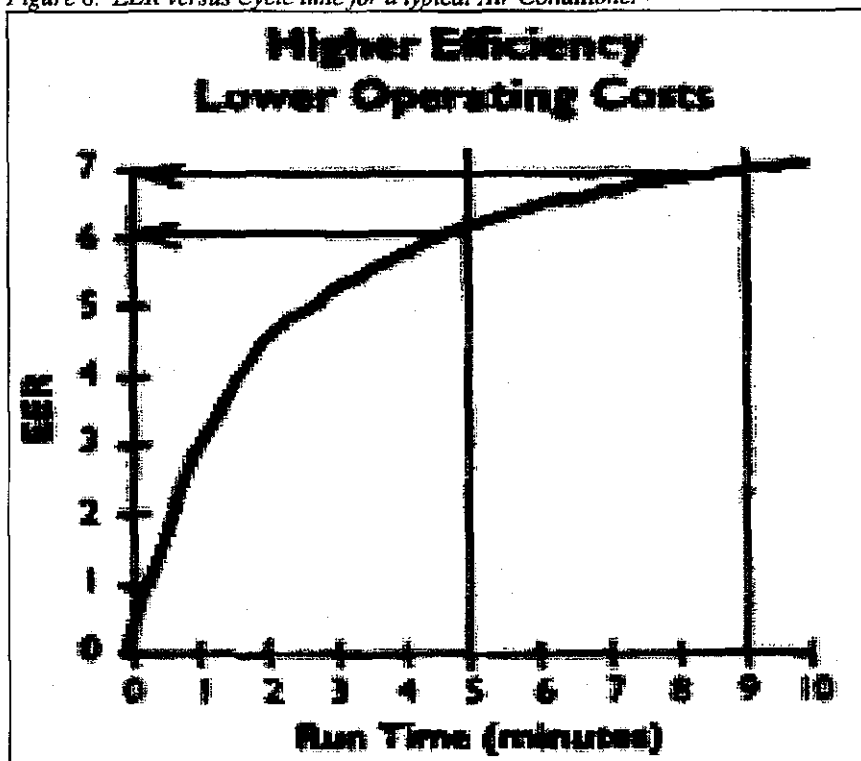
This example demonstrates the ability for demand response to substitute for capacity investments. The concept of avoided costs and least cost planning has been used for demand side management programs for many years. Typically the analysis of demand response programs includes only the direct economic savings from reductions in peak consumption. The indirect savings resulting from investments in infrastructure to support demand response, including reliability improvements and capacity substitution, should be incorporated in analysis of such investments.

#### VI. Additional Potential Benefits

There are multiple secondary benefits associated with technologies required for implementing demand response. These include improved efficiency of consumption, better customer service, and the potential for additional services.

The thermal control scheme will increase the cycle time of the air conditioner, which will also increase the efficiency and result in improved humidity reduction. The Energy Efficiency Ratio, EER (Btu/Wh) for air conditioners increases with cycle time, as does the amount of moisture that condenses and is collected. [12] (See Figure 8).

Figure 8. EER versus Cycle time for a typical Air Conditioner



It is likely that consumers with intelligent thermostats will reduce their consumption even more than the simple load shifting scenario outlined above. With greater control over temperatures and easier programming methods, consumers will be much more likely to allow their air conditioners to idle while they are away from home, thus possibly saving a great deal of electricity.

The automated metering systems also enable faster, more accurate fault detection since utilities can isolate the locations of faults as soon as they occur. They also increase customer service by providing more accurate billing and real time updates on changes to load. Additional services enabled by the metering and communications infrastructure include home security services and the bundling of water and natural gas metering.

Typical demand response evaluations focus primarily on the avoided costs from reductions of peak prices. Additional savings are available from alleviating transmission congestion and eliminating the necessity of additional investments. Large Scale Demand response utilizing thermal storage has the potential to significantly increase efficiency of the electric power system and reduce the overall infrastructure capacity.

#### VII. Future Research

There are several areas of future research necessary to determine the long-term implications of large-scale adoption of demand response technologies. Research is necessary in engineering, economics, and political/social science. This research can be conducted through a combination of laboratory simulation and monitoring of ongoing implementations by innovative utilities.

In engineering, possible transient stability issues resulting from simultaneous action by loads in response to discontinuous pricing periods (currently hourly) should be investigated. The magnitude of complementary benefits such as increased efficiency from extending cycle times can also be determined. In addition, development of control algorithms that are cost effective, easily implemented, acceptable and understandable for residential consumers is a precursor for large-scale adoption. Methods to integrate demand response for ancillary services including frequency control, VAR support, and reserves also need

further development. [6,11] Protection schemes that integrate demand response have significant potential and should be pursued as well. Line losses will be reduced in the short term as demand response reduces loading, but may increase in the long term if overall utilization is increased due to higher load factors.

Open research issues in economics include: Determination of the costs of information and education programs to promote consumer acceptance of demand response technologies; Further studies of the potential savings to include reductions in market power and the real options value of response technologies; determination of the magnitude of rebound effects from reduced prices and whether such effects are more or less peak coincident than current demand profiles; Determination of the long term effects on investment in generation, transmission, and distribution, including the possibility of stranded assets; Evaluation of market clearing mechanisms and the potential for instability or oscillatory behavior due to lumpy response behavior; Evaluation of various market designs to determine the incentives for investments in demand response.

Political and Social research on coalition formation, stakeholders and status quo bias, regulatory support/capture and uncertainty, and consumer behavior can determine the conditions and incentive structures necessary to promote large scale implementation/adoption of demand response technologies.

Demand response technologies have the potential to dramatically change the operation of the electric power system and to increase the efficiency of capital investments. Further research can help determine stable pathways to integrate demand response into the current system architecture.

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AmerenCILCO's, AmerenCIPS', and AmerenIP's  
Response to  
Citizens' Utility Board (CUB) Data Requests  
ICC Docket No. 07-0539  
Approval of Energy Efficiency and Demand Response Plan

**CUB 2.06** Provide all studies, surveys, data, and other documentation supporting the incentive strategy of \$170 per kW of demand response as shown on page 103 of the Ameren Illinois Utilities Energy Efficiency and Demand-Response Plan.

**Response:** The incentive of \$170 represents the assumed cost of \$145 for the control switch and an assumed customer payment equivalent to \$25. The \$145 and \$25 values were selected to be generally consistent with assumptions used for the ComEd Nature First Program.

**Prepared By:** Val R. Jensen  
**Title:** Sr. Vice President, ICF  
International  
**Phone:** (415) 677-7113  
**Date:** December 12, 2007

AmerenCILCO's, AmerenCIPS', and AmerenIP's  
Response to  
Citizens' Utility Board (CUB) Data Requests  
ICC Docket No. 07-0539  
Approval of Energy Efficiency and Demand Response Plan

**CUB 2.08** Provide all studies, surveys, data, and other documentation supporting the estimated budget shown on page 103 of the Ameren Illinois Utilities Energy Efficiency and Demand-Response Plan.

**Response:** The budget is the sum of incentive and non-incentive program costs. Incentive program costs are equal to the \$170 assumed per measure incentive and the estimated number of participants. Non-incentive program costs were set at 25% of incentive costs, essentially as a placeholder to test cost-effectiveness.

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